

Photos By Michael Boucher



## 2018 Spring Brunch

### Greetings From the President

Members & friends,

As I sit and ponder, I think there is so much to be grateful for, despite challenges, we live in a land of opportunities and abundance but many times it is taken for granted.

All of you have been so supportive of our efforts to sustain AOJAH's mission of making a difference and I am extremely appreciative!

We continue to support our local community needs and recently four high students were awarded AOJAH 4 year scholarships.

This year marks our 7th medical, eye and education mission and the Jamaican community is anxiously awaiting our arrival and services. Seventy-eight volunteers will be taking the journey the week of June 10th to perform provide and support surgery, medical and eye treatment. In an effort to support the Jamaican medical and nursing staff, several of our physicians will be presenting topics with the local physicians at our annual medical update seminar, which will be held again this year on June 10th at the RIU hotel.

On behalf of our board, I again would like to

thank you for staying the course with us and wish you and your families an enjoyable and safe summer season and looking forward to seeing you at our fundraising events.

~ Joan M. Crawford -McDonald



## 2018 Activities to Date

**April 15th** - Annual Brunch at the MGM Banquet Hall in Glendale

This year's "Its All About That Hat" themed brunch was keeping with AOJAH's fun filled hat contest and parade was a huge success. The scrumptious family style brunch was a big hit as usual. The larger than usual audience was again wowed by Simply Rose & DJ Mackie.

**May 21st** - Annual Golf Tournament at Braemar Country club.

"Wonderful event", " went off without a hitch" were the terms used to describe AOJAHs annual golf tournament. The players all had fun and enjoyed a delicious lunch of jerk chicken, rice & peas and vegetables on the course. Heard it was so good that they went back for seconds.

## 2018 Upcoming Activities

**June 10th to 15th** - Annual Medical, Eye and Education mission in Jamaica

In preparation several volunteers got together on May 5th to pack supplies and medications at Joan Crawford-McDonald's house. Thanks to Mr. McDonald for the wonderful Jerk Chicken lunch. We have 78 volunteers scheduled to go this year. Our goal is to start the week with the annual Medical seminar followed by a week of clinics and surgeries.

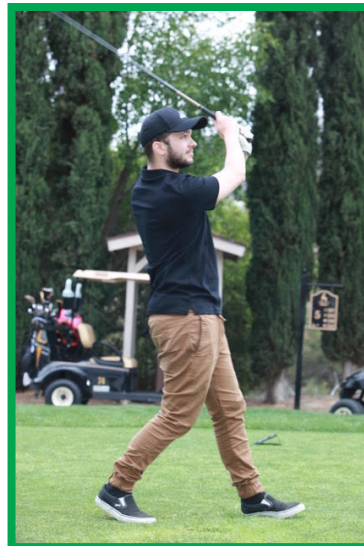
The education team plans to visit six basic schools and again grant scholarships to students in the HEART program.

Safe travels everyone!

**August 4th** - Annual health fair for the homeless at the Fred Jordon Mission

**November 3rd** - Annual Fundraising Gala at the Sheraton Universal

**December TBA** - Annual Holiday Luncheon at Scharp's Oasis House in South Central



## 2018 Golf Tournament

## Spotlight on Our Members and Volunteers

**Gbewonyo Church Brunch-** Wilmot and Enid Gbewonyo hosted their 3rd fund raising brunch at their local church to benefit the education mission. Church members enjoyed a meal of jerk chicken, curry goat and rice and beans. The Gbewonyos' do not charge for the meal instead they ask church members to donate to AOJAH and this year they raised over \$3,000.

The board members would like to thank Enid, Wilmot and their kids for the work they do to support AOJAH's education mission.

**Volunteer Recognition-** Dr. Maxwell Cheng received the David Lawrence Community Service Award from Kaiser Permanente. This award recognizes Kaiser Permanente employees and physicians who have championed outstanding volunteer activities that have improved the health of communities. We are proud to have Dr. Cheng as a AOJAH volunteers and all know how committed he is to the mission. Congratulations Dr. Cheng! Well deserved!!

**New Dad-** Congrats to Dr. Greg Saccone and his wife on the birth of their son! The newborn arrived on Saturday, May 26th weighing 8lbs 9 ounces.

## Equipment Needed

Last June we purchased a point of care machine for the neonatal intensive care unit at St Ann's Bay hospital and thus made a huge impact on the care of sick babies. We are continuing to try to raise funds to purchase equipment to improve care in the hospital as well as on the medical mission. This year we hope to raise enough to purchase a laser machine to be able to increase the number of glaucoma surgeries.



Dr. Maxwell Cheng  
& Joan Crawford

## Elections

Earlier this year we requested nominations for new board members but needless to say we received none. As a result, the current elected board members will remain in their position for another 3-year term. Before the end of the next term we hope to have you, our members become more involved and run for position on the board.

## Jamaica HS Scholarships

We continue to support one student attending Calabar High School as he heads to his final year in six form.

## Local HS Scholarships

It is with great delight that AOJAH can say that we completed our first, four year scholarship program with two students, Seresha Candler and Jose Gil. Both students graduated from high school and have set their sights, (Seresha) for higher education in another state and (Jose Gil) for the Police Academy. We wish them well. We will definitely keep up with them and see how they're faring on their journey.

In 2018, AOJAH performed interviews for new scholarship recipients. We seek students from the homeless division of the Los Angeles Unified School District, what a great partnership! It was such a tear jerking experience to hear the student's heart felt stories of dealing with homelessness and trying to stay positive and keep their grades up.

The Board of AOJAH heard the cry, and tried to fulfill a need, so by taking on 4 students we feel, we're casting a net to help more kids.

Our local community outreach committee will be doing fundraisers through the year to help reach our commitment to help our new recipients be successful through their four years of school, while they learn to give back with AOJAH in our local community outreach.

The recipients of this year's local scholarships are:

Ivy Cohen

Fatima Escareno

Charles Jones

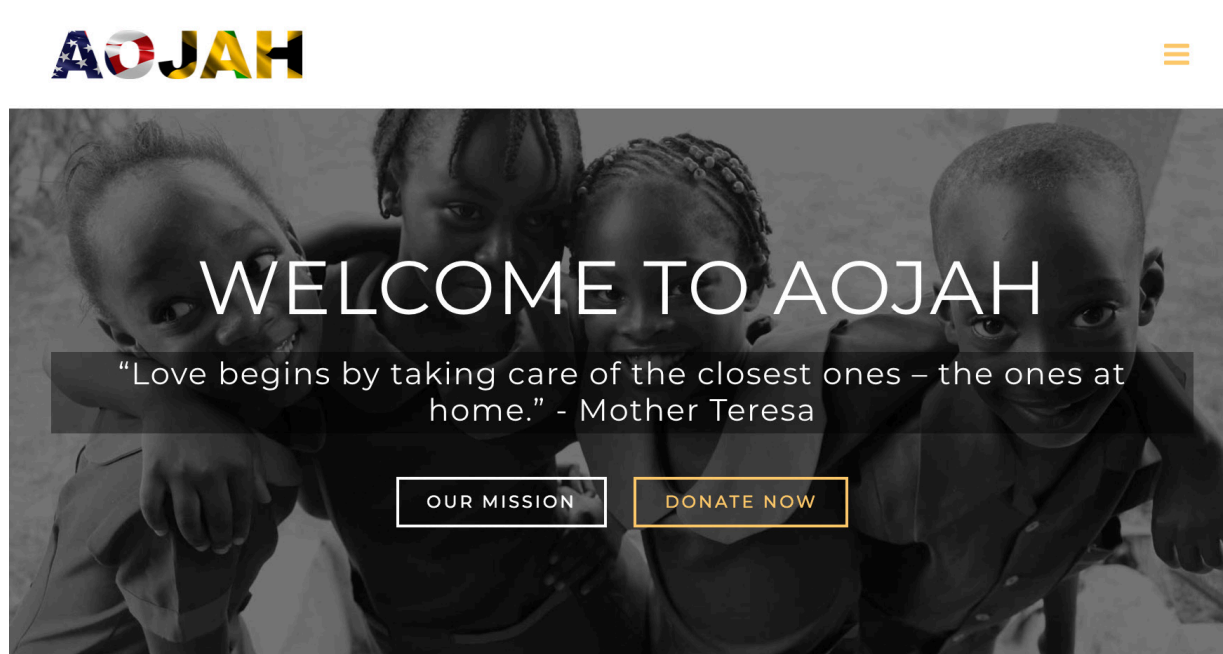
Roangela Lopez

Congrats as you embark on your four years of high school!



## Social Media

Check out our new website and Logo!! Thanks to Andy Adams our new website is up and running and shows off our new logo created by one of our volunteer MDs. We are also on Facebook so take the time to friend AOJAH, keep up with our activities and share with your Facebook friends.



**Check Out Our New Website!**



[www.aojah.org](http://www.aojah.org)



**Follow Us on Facebook!**

Search for **AOJAH** and like and follow our page.



**AOJAH**

**8549 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1004  
Beverly Hills, CA 90211**

## 2018 Upcoming Events

8th Annual Medical, Eye and Education Mission

- Week of June 10th to June 15th

Annual health fair for the homeless at the Fred Jordon Mission

- August 4th

Annual fundraising gala at the Sheraton Universal

- Saturday, November 3rd

Annual Holiday Luncheon at Scharp's Oasis House in South Central

- December TBA

## A Little Bit of Jamaica

Summer Quencher:

2 lbs Grated Ginger

1 Large Can of Pineapple

1 Cup of Lemon Juice

1/2 Tsp of Baking Soda

1 1/2 lbs of Sugar

3 Gallons of Water

Peel and grade the ginger. Boil the water. Add baking soda. Cover and leave to stand overnight. Strain. Add sugar and pineapple juice to liquid. Serve over ice and enjoy.

## How to Contact a Board Member

Joan Crawford - joanc@aojah.org

Maxwell Sinclair - maxwell.sinclair@yahoo.com

Hermin Hussen - herminh@aojah.org / (310) 227-0212

Gloria Blackburn - dgblack05@hotmail.com

Rosemary Wilson - rosemarywilson54@msn.com

Patricia Perry - virettap@yahoo.com

Joan Henry - joanmhenry@verizon.net

Courtesy of Pat Perry

## ★ Dues

Reminder that your annual dues help us to keep the organization going and do all the wonderful work. Please pay dues when you receive notification from the treasurer.



**Get involved! Recruit more members! Donate!**