Doctors, community volunteer to assist in Jamaica

It's refreshing to see that volunteerism is alive and well in Bergen County. What began as a small project has grown into a lesson in volunteerism for local children. Drs. Jamie Diament-Golub and Jon Golub, a pediatric dentist and an orthodontist, respectively, have continued their dental volunteer work this year with a mission to Jamaica.

They also have upcoming missions to Cambodia and Mongolia. What is different this year is that their patients took part in the trip to Jamaica. They donated their handmade rainbow loom bracelets to the patients that the doctors saw on this dental outreach in Jamaica.

In fact, everyone got in on the act: the third grade class of School #4 in Fort Lee, a Girl Scout troop from Harrington Park, a special needs class from the McKinley School in Saddle Brook, and a local business, The Canteen in Westwood, all donated loom bracelets to be brought to Jamaica.

Dr. Jamie noted, “In the past, we’ve given the children superhero stickers, but as we saw in Jamaica, the children are thrilled when they see the loom bracelets.”

The doctors have practices in Fort Lee and Westwood. They have reunited with colleagues from all over the world through Health Care International in Jamaica and will be reuniting with KIDS Dental Services for their upcoming trips to Cambodia and Mongolia.

Typically, the dental volunteer group sees between 200 and 400 patients per day. On all three trips, the group establishes a home base and travels each day to remote areas where dentistry is unavailable.

According to Dr. Jon, “We’re so happy to involve our patients and friends in these dental missions. For years our patients and parents have asked how they can help? As we saw in Jamaica, the bracelets were not only cool accessories, but they also told these children that they have friends in New Jersey, their own age, who care about them.”

Pictured here is Dr. Jon Golub with children in Jamaica during a recent volunteer trip.