

Letter from the President...



In our <u>April 2024 newsletter</u>, **Friends of Islands Initiatives**, **Inc.** (FOIII) announced a generous donor who pledged to match up to \$2,000 in contributions given by May 31, 2024. We are most grateful that this anonymous donor shared not only their financial support but also their enthusiasm for our mission to help small island communities like Nevis.

You, our loyal supporters, rose to the challenge, and I'm pleased to announce that we exceeded the \$2,000 match thanks to a number of generous contributions, including a significant grant from Christine and Michael Huskisson of the huskKY Fund. We are grateful for their support, as well as the many others who sent us funds and words of support.

We now have the funds in place for two important purchases that are being developed:

- A medical grade refrigerator with temperature controls for vaccines and other medications.
- An automated external defibrillator (AED) for the Medical Awareness Committee, a community effort to secure AEDs to be placed at critical sites in Nevis.

A list of our donors can always be <u>found on our website</u>, along with our goals for where to allocate future funds based on grant requests from Alexandra Hospital and other nonprofits.

Please save the date of **February 12** for a Donor Appreciation Party on Nevis to celebrate our shared objectives and be part of our discussion about future plans. Look for an invitation soon.

In the meantime, please <u>consider FOIII as part of your year-end</u> <u>giving</u>, so we can continue our meaningful conversations to improve health care and support other important initiatives on Nevis.



Donate Today!

- Mark Pinney, FOIII President

Call for Grant Proposals

Do you work with an organization that shares our mission of "Solving the unique challenges of island communities?" If so, we'd like to hear from you!

While **Friends of Islands Initiatives'** major focus remains on providing equipment for Alexandra Hospital and other health care centers on Nevis, we make a number of smaller grants for <u>initiatives</u> that also provide a demonstrable island-wide benefit.



Since our inception, FOIII has:

- Provided equipment, a pop-up tent, and materials to refurbish a repurposed building for classroom use by the Nevis International Secondary School.
- Sponsored lionfish hunts to help control the existence of this invasive species.
- Subsidized swim equipment for Swim to Win to help citizens of all ages to learn necessary water skills.
- Co-sponsored the Youth Beach Games with the Nevis Department of Youth to develop environmental awareness.
- And more!

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We like creative ideas consistent with our mission statement!

For more guidelines, please visit the <u>Applying for Grants</u> page on our website.

Donor Appreciation Party

February 12, 2025 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Watch your email for an invitation!



Welcome Donna Jutras!

We are excited to welcome a new FOIII Board Member to our mix. **Donna Jutras** and her husband, Mark, first discovered the beautiful island of Nevis in 2012 on a family vacation. They now enjoy dividing their time between Nevis and their home in Massachusetts. Before retiring, Donna had a career in the high-tech industry, specializing in software development and engineering project management. Now retired, she is eager to apply her experience and expertise to support the Board's initiatives and contribute meaningfully to the community.

If you know someone who would be interested in the good work we do, please forward this newsletter to them or encourage them to support our cause! <u>info@islandsinitiatives.org</u>