



Letter from the President...

The Directors of **Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc.** are as enthused as we've been in the history of our organization!

First, we have just concluded a Donor Appreciation Party on Nevis with our valued supporters, where many questions were asked and thoughtful discussions had with The Honorable Minister of Health, Jahnel Nisbett, about how FOIII can continue its mission of supporting health care on Nevis.



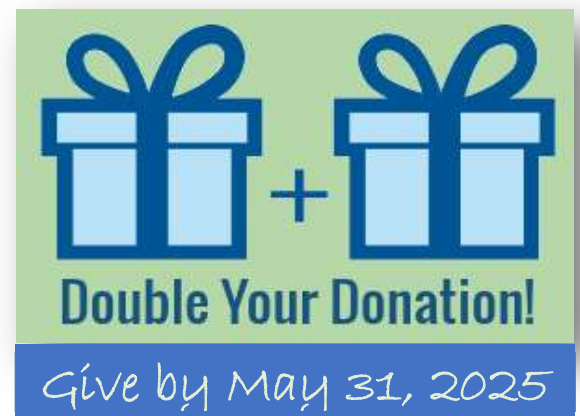
As a result of these discussions, FOIII has just approved the funds for 2 significant grants that we look forward to sharing updates about in the near future:

1. Dental X-Ray Machine for the Health Ministry to perform dental checks on hundreds of schoolchildren
2. Three Infusion Pumps for Alexandra Hospital for bedside IV delivery of medications, fluids, and nutrients

Second, we are celebrating the addition of two new Charter Donors - **Christine and Michael Huskisson** and **Lee and Kent DeLucenay** – who have made contributions of \$5,000 or more to our organization. Their generosity went a long way toward helping us fulfill the above grants and future needs in Nevis.

Third, once again, we have a generous Donor Match of \$2,000 for all funds raised by May 31, 2025!

While we are always grateful to our anonymous donor for their inspirational gift, this year's is especially timely in the wake of the Charter Donations. To keep our nonprofit 501(c)(3) status, IRS rules dictate that a third of our overall revenues come from smaller donations (ideally, in the \$100 range) to offset larger ones.



Hence, we would be grateful to receive your doubly impactful support today. [Click here to donate!](#)

With your help, we can purchase more items from the hospital wish list, which includes a blood bank refrigerator to enable timely administering of blood products without emergency appeals to the community for blood donations and updating theater lights in the operating theater.

Please read on for pictures, a video, and a recap of what was discussed at the Donor Party. We invite any of you who have additional questions to reach out to a Board Member or email us at info@islandsinitiatives.org. We love your engagement!

Thank you for joining us in enthusiastically supporting FOIII's goals to make Nevis a stronger community for all of us.

- Mark Pinney, FOIII President

Donor Appreciation Party

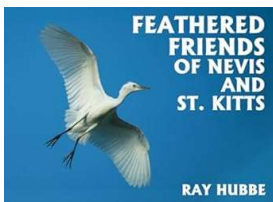
On February 12, FOIII Board Member Miriam Knorr hosted a Donor Appreciation Party at her home in Jones Bay. Board Members, donors, and friends were treated to cocktails and appetizers while getting acquainted. The Honorable Minister of Health, Jahnel Nisbett, gave brief remarks about the hospital's needs and offered a thank you to all who have helped improve the quality of health care available in Nevis. She happily answered questions regarding past and future donations.

Much interest was generated in a dental X-ray machine for children that is needed in the Dental Health Clinic located just outside of Charlestown. This clinic services all of the school children in Nevis and would be instrumental in detecting more serious problems where suspected.



Myra Romain, Suzanne Gordon and Todd Miller, and Jahnel Nisbett

[Click here](#) for a brief video of Nisbett's remarks and [here](#) for a photo gallery from the party.



Donors were given a signed copy of "Feathered Friends of Nevis and St Kitts," written by Ray Hubbe. All profits from the sale of his book are donated to programs benefiting Nevis. Dr. Hubbe is a Board Member of Islands Initiatives and has worked for many years at the Nevis Eye Care Program located at Alexandra Hospital.

Thank You, Shelley!



FOIII Board Member Shelley Rappaport and her husband have been visitors to Nevis for over 12 years. She has served tirelessly as our Treasurer and provided her Cape Cod home as our corporate physical address for five years. As past controller for the Cyprian Keyes Golf Club in Boylston, MA, Shelley was well-suited to establish the systems and procedures as we grew our nonprofit. While Shelley is stepping down as our Treasurer to spend more time in Florida, she remains on our Board to assist our new Treasurer, Donna Jutras, whose IT skills and online expertise well positions her to handle our finances and tax filings.

Thank you, Shelley, for all your efforts over these last five years!

Our New Address

Please note our new organization address:

10 Howarth Dr.

Upton, MA 01568



Lionfish Hunt

In August, FOIII Board Member Miriam Knorr will organize the 2025 Lionfish Hunt with NHCS and Blue Conscience, a St. Kitts nonprofit protecting the reefs and marine life.

Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc. will provide the prize packages for most fish, largest fish in length, the largest fish in weight, the largest overall weighed catch, and the smallest fish.

This free, fun, and competitive event encourages sustainable fishing and the safe handling of lionfish with prize packages including scissors, gloves, and belt with a zookeeper tube to safely carry the fish. Grilled lionfish samples, as well as lionfish soup and fritters, will be provided.

More details will be announced in the coming months.

Other Health Care Updates

Have you seen the Blood Analyzer Machine we purchased for Alexandria Hospital in action?

Click on the picture (right) or [click here](#) to see the machine, which Hospital Administrator Gary Pemberton says “greatly enhance[s] our diagnostic capabilities and provide quality health care to the residents of St. Kitts and Nevis and visitors alike.”



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!
info@islandsinitiatives.org