



Letter from the President...



I am delighted to report that we recently concluded our April Board meeting, at which we welcomed Kent DeLucenay as a new Board Member – and he is profiled below.

Further, we understand the operating room theater light you funded is soon-to-be installed at Alexandra Hospital, and blood pressure monitors and digital thermometers for Nevis' six Community Health Centers are now acquired to support the Nevis government's Hearts Program. We are also raising funds for three reclining chairs for the Flamboyant Nursing Home for those who need full-body

support during rest, recovery, or clinical procedures. Finally, we are evaluating larger purchases of medical equipment based on receiving larger donations from charter donors that can be complemented with smaller donations so that we conform to IRS regulations.

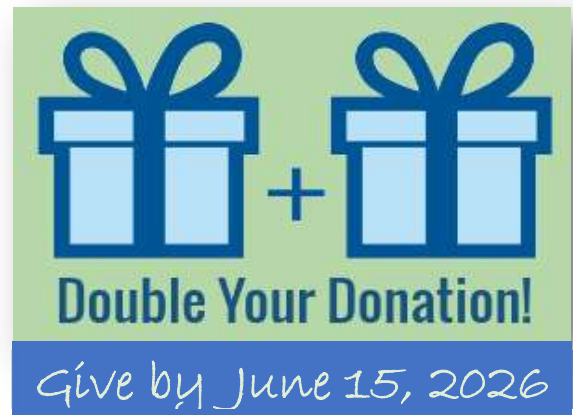
We were gratified to host a successful Donor Appreciation Party in February attended by the Honorable Shelisa Martin-Clarke, Permanent Secretary of Health, Gender Affairs, and Social Empowerment. Your enthusiasm for the work of the organization was most evident, and it is exciting to witness your support for broadening the visibility for what the organization stands for.

We do have a Donor Match in place for contributions up to \$3,000 USD by June 15, 2026, so please take advantage of this. [Click here to donate!](#)

We invite any of you who have additional questions to reach out to a Board Member or email us at info@islandsinitiatives.org. As always, 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



"Partnership is important, and while government continues to invest heavily in health care, we recognize that government cannot do it alone.

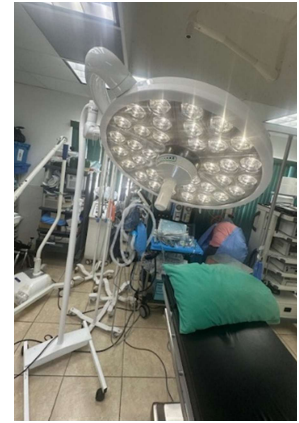
We want to say thank you [to Friends of Islands Initiatives]. You are helping us to bridge the gaps that we have within our systems and accelerate improvement within our health care services. Thank you very much."

- The Honorable Shelisa Martin-Clarke, Permanent Secretary of Health, Gender Affairs, and Social Empowerment

Where Your Support Goes

Thanks to our generous donors, Friends of Islands Initiatives, Inc. (FOIII) was able to purchase a high-intensity, portable **Theater Light** for the operating room at Alexandra Hospital. The lamp has 5 brightness settings, two articulating arms to direct the light, and an Endo Mode that reduces the light automatically for endoscopic treatments.

It has already been received at Alexandra Hospital, where it will be of great use! Board Member Dr. Raymond Hubbe was able to take the photo (right) of it in the hospital's operating room.



Portable Theater Light

Looking forward in our support of health care, we learned from the Honorable Shelisa Martin-Clarke, Permanent Secretary of Health, Gender Affairs, and Social Empowerment about Nevis' next greatest needs for public and community health. [Click here](#) for a video of her remarks at our Donor Appreciation Party in February.

Based on her guidance and your generous support, FOIII has just approved grants for the following two diagnostic items in **each** of the island's six Community Health Centers as part of the Nevis government's Hearts Program to help residents with chronic, non-communicable diseases to manage their conditions, promoting early detection and improving treatment outcome:



1 Blood Pressure Monitor for each Community Health Center

- **6 Blood Pressure Monitors** – with automatic cuff inflation and deflation, more accurate readings, and a variety of cuff sizes
- **6 Digital Thermometers** – accurate oral, axillary, and rectal thermometer for use with patients of all ages with results in seconds; includes interchangeable probe well to reduce risk of cross-contamination



1 Digital Thermometer for each Community Health Center



FOIII is also actively fundraising to fulfill Ms. Martin-Clarke's request for **3 reclining chairs** at the Flamboyant Nursing Home for those who need full-body support during rest, recovery, or clinical procedures. The chairs roll so staff can reposition patients within a room or between care areas to keep them active, comfortable, and socially engaged.

Large Donations Make a Difference

Friends of Islands Initiatives appreciates its sustaining donors who give up to \$5,000 annually to support our mission.

We have also benefited from the large grants of our Charter Donors, those who have given \$5,000 or more, enabling us to purchase impactful medical equipment. Thanks in part to the substantial gifts from the following Charter Donors, we have been able to approve grants for:

- Individual bedside patient monitors
 - *Major contributor: 2 grants from The Dorothea Leonhardt Fund at the Communities Foundation of Texas made possible by Fund advisor, Andrea Harkins*
- Purchase of 3 portable EKG Machine with carts for use in its medical ward, surgical ward, and outpatient areas and Anesthesia Vaporizer
 - *Major contributor: a bequest from the estate of Jacques and Ghislaine Cramer (Jackie and Josie) from St. Kitts and Nevis through their children Vickie, Debbie, Kim, and Robert*
- A dental x-ray machine for the school dental program
 - *Major contributor: 2 grants from the Husk Fund*

Alexandra Hospital is currently requesting help to purchase expensive ultrasound machines for the maternity ward and emergency room, where immediate informed treatment is essential. Each ultrasound machine costs \$30,000. Board Members have pledged to provide half the cost of one ultrasound machine for the emergency room, but we need to balance this board pledge with donations under \$5,000 from donor-advised funds, foundations, and our sustaining donors. Together, we can make an important difference in patient care by providing this life-saving equipment.

For donations larger than \$5,000, please contact us by reaching out to one of our Board Members directly or emailing us at info@islandsinitiatives.org.

Welcome to Kent DeLucenay



Friends of Island Initiative's newest Board Member is Kent DeLucenay, who is enthusiastic about FOIII's mission and is looking forward to working with the Board to broaden the impact of the organization.

Kent spent his career as a Human Resources executive, working as the senior HR person in three different health care companies. He and his wife, Lee, first came to Nevis in 1993 when she won a trip to the Four Seasons. That set them on a 33-year love affair with the island. They bought a house in 2018 and happily spend

4-5 months on island each year.

Kent and Lee have three daughters, eight grandchildren, and soon five great-grandchildren. Nearly all have been to Nevis and share the love for the island.

We Appreciate Our Donors!

The Friends of Islands Initiatives' annual Donor Appreciation Party was held at Mt. Nevis Hotel on February 12, 2026. Hosted by FOIII Board Member Miriam Knorr, the event was attended by 22 donors and several other Board Members.

The previous year's accomplishments were highlighted, and the Honorable Shelisa Martin-Clarke, Permanent Secretary of Health, Gender Affairs, and Social Empowerment spoke about several items that the health care system needs to improve its efficiency in Nevis.

Donors were able to ask many questions regarding the items, and Ms. Martin-Clarke provided detailed descriptions, sources, and prices listed for the equipment.

FOIII is grateful to all of our past donors and were thrilled to provide an opportunity for them to engage in a direct way with decision-makers about the future of Nevis' health care.

[Click here](#) for photos and a video for Ms. Martin-Clarke's remarks.

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