



Mission Jamaica Legacy Endowment Fund Questions and Answers

What is a legacy?

A legacy is the imprint of our lives on the future of those around us. As a result, we all have a legacy. We will leave a legacy either by default or by design. It is your choice what legacy you leave.

What is the Mission Jamaica Legacy Endowment Fund (MJLEF)?

Individuals who have participated in Mission Jamaica (MJ) understand MJ's missionary sending verse: John 20:21 – *“Jesus said to them again, peace be with you, as the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.”* This verse says it all. MJLEF was established by an ecumenical group of Christians responding to the Lord's command to help grow His Kingdom. It has one and only one purpose – to grow His Kingdom by supporting MJ missions with consistent, long term financial support.

Who will oversee the MJLEF?

The Foundation of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, MN, is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. It will manage the fiduciary responsibilities required by IRS regulations for charitable organizations. The Foundation will be responsible for record keeping and fiscal management of donations to MJLEF.

How will the donation be invested?

The MJLEF will be invested in low cost index stock and bond funds to provide competitive investment returns with prudent levels of risk. Fund performance is not guaranteed since it is dependent upon economic and investment market factors beyond the Foundation's control.

What portion of my donation will be available for distribution?

The Foundation will distribute up to 5% of principal from earnings only (the principal is not used for distribution) once a year. Mission Jamaica, under the supervision of its Mission Director, with input from the MJLEF Advisory Board, will make sure the distributed earnings are put to work in Jamaica according to the donors' wishes.

What is the MJLEF Advisory Board?

The Advisory Board will be made up of at least 3 missionaries that have made a minimum of 3 mission trips to Jamaica and have a broad understanding of various MJ partner missions. Members will have staggered three year terms and have two roles. The first is to advise the MJ Executive Director on allocation MJLEF distributions and prioritization of MJ mission partner projects. The second is to prepare an annual summary report on how distributions were spent and the impact of those distributions on MJ missions.

How will the donations be used?

Annual distributions from the MJLEF will be used for critical project needs in Mission Jamaica. This funding is over and above current funding for Mission Jamaica projects. Earnings from donations of less than \$10,000 go to wherever the need is greatest. Earnings from donations above \$10,000 permit the donor to designate a specific mission in MJ if desired.

If for some reason Mission Jamaica no longer exists in the future, what happens to the funds in the MJLEF?

The MJ Executive Director and the MJLEF Advisory Board's last responsibility will be to work with the Foundation of St. Andrew's to distribute the MJLEF principal funds in Jamaica. Priority will go to seek a long term distribution schedule to mission services in Jamaica that correspond to the mix of missions incorporated in MJ and in donor wishes.

How can I learn more about MJLEF?

Contact Jeff Peterson at MJ (651-762-9112, jeffp@saintandrews.org) or Gerry Rafferty, Exec. Dir. of the Foundation, (651-295-7039, grafferty@saintandrews.org)

How can I donate?

All gifts to MJLEF are tax deductible in the year given. You can provide legacy support to MJ through small cash gifts to commemorate a baptism, birthday, wedding etc. If you can't go to Jamaica this year consider donating the trip cost. Giving appreciated stock is always a tax efficient way to support MJ. Donations above \$10,000 can have a specific mission designation like JaBode, West Haven, medical etc.

You can make MJLEF part of your estate plan with a designation in your will or assignment of an insurance policy. Another easy way is to give MJ a percentage of your IRA or 401(k).

1 Corinthians 3:10 *By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it.*