

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Reggae Math Foundation Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is to increase the love and understanding of math in underserved populations with a history of low performance in math. Using great teachers and tutors, professional development of teachers, and engaging activities and materials, our mission is to educate learners so they can teach someone else.



#### **OUR STORY**

According to the Jamaica Ministry of Education National Mathematics Policy Guidelines, only 17% of graduating students in Jamaica passed the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) high school math exam between 2001 and 2011. This is unacceptable.

Upon hearing that a once-successful student was failing math, Linda Bailey-McWeeney, Ph.D., began a quest to find out why. She understood from the student that although he tried, he just wasn't "getting" it. The fact is, there are many ways to teach math and reach students. Just because a teacher isn't connecting with every student isn't a reflection of either the student or the teacher, it just means that another approach might benefit the learner.

Enter Reggae Math Foundation (RMF), founded in 2016. RMF strives to locate math teachers around the globe who use different techniques and approaches to teach. RMF will record these teachers' lessons and make the videos available to kids who need extra help learning math. This is a great option for families who cannot afford tutors or additional resources for their struggling child.

Currently, RMF is crowdsourcing to raise enough money to create 10 videos.

### MEET LINDA A. BAILEY-MCWEENEY, PhD



I am a Labor Economist with a strong interest in education. Growing up in Kingston, Jamaica, I witnessed high levels of poverty. After obtaining my Bachelors in Management Studies with Economics from University of the West Indies, I taught Mathematics at Wolmer's Boys High school, then returned to do my Masters in Economics. I earned my PhD in Economics from Michigan State University in 2004 and taught in the City University of New York system from 2004 to 2016. My life goal is to reduce global poverty by increasing education access.

To that end, in 2016, I founded Reggae Math Foundation to improve education for under-served populations.



### **GOALS**

The Reggae Math Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, whose goal is to bring great teachers to every student with a desire to understand math.

- Master teacher series: Film lectures of Jamaica's excellent and engaging teachers who have a history of success in reaching students.
- Video Archive: Create a video library that will be accessible free of charge.
- Professional development: Ensure that every child has a skilled teacher. We will work with proven professional development programs to give teachers the tools they need to reach more students.
- Peer tutoring: Create a Peer-to-Peer teaching module in which high achieving math students can tutor other students.
- Math engagement: Support provision of activities and materials which increase the love and understanding of math.

For more, please visit https://www.reggaemathfoundation.org/



### **FACT SHEET**

- Reggae Math Foundation (RMF) is devoted to improving the math education for underserved students by making available online videos of classes from some of the top math teachers in Jamaica. It was founded in 2016.
- Between 2001 and 2011, only 17% of graduating students in Jamaica passed the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) high school math exam.
- Two projects have already begun: The Master Teacher Series with educator Kippy Chin (view this at https://www.reggaemathfoundation.org/lessons/), and professional development workshops for teaching research-based methods to improve student understanding of math. We are working on bringing additional professional development programs with proven track records to teachers and educators in Jamaica.
- Higher education yields better paying jobs and gives people options.
- RMF believes that low education and low achievement can be transformed by inspiring teachers.
- Many families cannot afford tutoring or additional resources to help their children learn math better. The Reggae Math video series will alleviate those challenges.